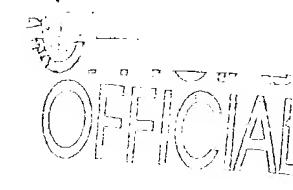


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to: Irene Marx

fax #: 703-872-9307

from: Kent A. Herink

date: February 20, 2004

re: Preliminary Amendment

pages: 6, including this cover sheet

NOTES:

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEB 20 2004

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In re Application of)
Van Beek) Group Art Unit 1681
Serial No. 09/753,381)
Filed: January 2, 2001)
For: Method for Improving the Activity)
Of Enzymes)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for United States Letters Patent, kindly enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks relative to consideration of the present application.

Amendments to the Specification starts on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks start on page 4 of this paper.

#1021678